

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/642,453

Examiner

Hanh Nguyen

Applicant(s)

GRANGER ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to A response filed on 1/24/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are Claims 13-18 and 23-32 renumbered 1-16 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Attached copy.

Hanh Nguyen

HANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wilfred Lam at (650) 969 8300 on 4/24/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 13, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 32 have been amended as shown in the attached copy:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272 3092. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 571 272 7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hanh Nguyen



**HANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Attached Copy
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page 1

13. (Original) A computer product for use in conjunction with a computer system, the computer ~~program~~ product comprising a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising:

a receiving module for receiving a data structure that includes digitized speech from a transmitting forum participant in a forum;

an analyzer module for analyzing said data structure to determine whether said digitized speech in said data structure is redundantly represented in a plurality of forms;

a selection module for selecting one or more forms from said plurality of forms in said data structure when said digitized speech is redundantly represented in said data structure in said plurality of forms based on an aspect of said forum; ~~and~~

a forwarding module for forwarding a portion of said data structure to a receiving forum participant, thereby communicating said digitized speech from said transmitting forum participant in said forum; ~~wherein~~

said portion of said data structure that is forwarded to said receiving forum participant by said forwarding module includes data in said data structure that corresponds to each of said one or more forms selected by said selection module when said digitized speech is redundantly represented in said data structure in said plurality of forms.

23. (Original) A computer readable memory used to direct a client/server system to function in a specified manner, comprising:

executable instructions stored in said memory, said executable instructions including:

instructions to receive a data structure that includes digitized speech from a transmitting forum participant in a forum;

instructions to analyze said data structure to determine whether said digitized speech in said data structure is redundantly represented in a plurality of forms;

instructions to select one or more forms from said plurality of forms in said data structure when said digitized speech is redundantly represented in said data structure in said plurality of forms based on an aspect of said forum; ~~and~~

instructions to forward a portion of said data structure to a receiving forum participant, thereby communicating said digitized speech from said transmitting forum participant in said forum; ~~wherein~~

said portion of said data structure that is forwarded to said receiving forum participant by said instructions to forward includes data in said data structure that corresponds to each of said

one or more forms selected by said instructions to select one or more forms when said digitized speech is redundantly represented in said data structure in said plurality of forms.

27. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 23, wherein said digitized speech is redundantly represented in said data structure in a first and second form, said first form characterized by an operation of a first codec on an voice signal corresponding to said digitized speech and said second form characterized by an operation of a second codec on said voice signal corresponding to said digitized speech, ~~wherein~~

said first codec operates with a first frame length and said second codec operates with a different second frame length; and

said first form and said second form represented in said data structure in unequal durational amounts.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer readable memory used to direct a client/server system to function in a specified manner, comprising:

executable instructions stored in said memory, said executable instructions including:

first instructions to select one or more codecs based on an aspect of a forum;

instructions to convert to compressed digital data, by operation of each said selected codec, a voice signal associated with a participant in said forum;

instructions to package said digital data into a packet; and

instructions to transmit said packet, thereby communicating digitized speech from said participant in said forum;

wherein, when more than one codec is selected, said digital data includes a redundant representation of said voice signal associated with said participant in said forum.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer readable memory of claim 29 wherein

said first instructions ~~to select~~ choose a first and a second codec; and

said instructions to convert to compressed digital data include:

instructions to convert a first amount of said voice signal associated with said participant in said forum to a first quanta of compressed digital data having a first degree of a characteristic;

instructions to convert a second amount of said voice signal associated with said participant in said forum to a second quanta of compressed digital data having a second degree of said characteristic; wherein

~~their exists an overlap between~~ said first amount of said voice signal and overlapping at least in part said second amount of said voice signal.

31. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 29, ~~wherein~~ said characteristic is a transmitted bandwidth, a bit rate, a form of bit rate; a level of speech quality, an amount of error correction, a band signaling tone, a complexity, a frame size, an amount of delay, or a native sampling rate.

32. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 29, ~~wherein~~ said aspect of said forum is a status of a participant in said forum, a number of nonpaying participants in said forum, or a number of paying participants in said forum.